

From: Brennan Young
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 6:11am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Microsoft has complained that the settlement proposed by the non-settling states is 'punitive'.

This implies that the initial proposed settlement is **not** punitive - that they don't see it as any kind of lesson, warning or punishment of or against their law-breaking activities over the last decades. Microsoft's most recent activities indicate that they have no intention of changing policy in regard to competition.

The initial proposed settlement makes little provision for what will happen to Microsoft if they continue to abuse their monopoly, making it close to worthless.

Of course Microsoft should be punished. Microsoft are starving the national and international IT market of diversity and growth in the name of it's own proprietary 'innovations'. Microsoft should be treated punitively. They have broken the law and ruined the livelihoods of thousands of innovative companies. They should be obliged to produce their application software, fully supported and uncrippled, for non-Microsoft operating systems, and they should allow third-party developers the same opportunities to create software for Windows as their own developers have, they should absolutely not be allowed to use their desktop monopoly to leverage their position in the emerging handheld device and multimedia player market.

Brennan Young